



City of Cincinnati

Date: May 13, 2002

## For Immediate Release

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### High Water Precaution Advisory

As the rain continues to cause problems for homeowners in the greater Cincinnati area the City of Cincinnati Stormwater Management Utility and the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) would like to remind residents to take the following precautions.

- Stormwater can be deceiving and should always be regarded as dangerous. If you see high water or ponding water on roadways, please do not try to drive through. Entering high water areas can be dangerous.
- Please advise children to be aware that even though it may not be currently raining, storm drains, outlets, intakes, creeks and streams can flash flood at any time. Please keep children and pets out of these areas for their safety.
- Clogged inlets should also be regarded as dangerous. People and animals can be swept away by rushing waters.

**Please report any flooding or high/standing water to MSDGC at 352-4900.**

Some residents may be experiencing backups or water in their basements. Please be advised that sewers are running full in many areas due to the heavy and persistent rainfall. As the rain subsides, this situation will subside as well. "We understand your frustrations and are asking for your patience. We will respond to each call." Said MSDGC Director Mr. Patrick T. Karney, PE. DEE. "During these rain events MSDGC and SMU first respond to any emergency situations such as collapsed sewers in roadways or debris blockages. The main thrust is to make sure that sewers and inlets are not blocked, preventing water from entering. As long as the sewers are free flowing the water will go down."

MSDGC and City Highway Maintenance Crews are working around the clock to respond to customer complaints. To aid customers in receiving service, we ask that if you have water in your basement from your floor drains, to please call a plumber first to be sure the blockage is not inside the residence. Call MSDGC if the water does not recede. MSDGC will check the mainline in the street for any problems. Information on how to clean your home after the water subsides is available by calling 352-4900.